THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): : (a) Yes, Sir. Board of Industrial Finance and Reconstruction (BIFR) approved a revival scheme for Bharat Refractories Limited (BRL) in September, 1996.

(b) The salient features of BIFR revival package were:

(i) Waiver of interest accrued on loans as on 31.3.95 amounting to Rs. 6164 lakhs;

(ii) Conversion of 50% of plan loan as on 31st March, 1995 representing Rs. 3975.89 lakhs into equity and the balance into 12% term loan with interest holiday for 3 years and moratorium on loan repayment for 4 years;

(iii) Conversion of Rs. 12.05 lakhs of non plan loan into 7% non cumulative prefrential shares redeemable in 10 years;

(iv) Sanction of loans to cover the cost of scheme envisaged at Rs. 3100 lakhs during VIII Plan, and

(v) Merger of India firebricks and Insulation Company Limited (IFICO) with BRL.

(c) Government have already provided these financial reliefs/concessions to BRL. BRL and IFICO have also merged with effect from 1.10.1997.

Setting up of New Steel Plants

3631. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government with regard to setting up new steel plants;

(b) whether Government are taking steps to set-up new steel plants in different States including Orissa;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the proposal to set-up a steel plant at Nayagrah in Keonjhar district of the State of Orissa and another at Paradeep in that State has been pending since long; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to implement that proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) According to New Industrial Policy announced in July 1991, Iron and Steel Industry among others, has been removed from the list of Industries reserved for public sector, and also exempted from the provisions of compulsory licensing under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 subject to the condition that the proposed project is not located within 25 kms. from the periphery of the standard urban area limits of a city having a population of mere than 10 lacs according to the 1991 Census. The condition, however, does not apply if the plant is located in any approved industrial area.

No industrial licence from Government is, therefore, necessary to set up any iron and steel plants and entrepreneurs are required to file an Industrial Entrepreneurs Memorandum (IEM) according to the above policy.

(b) and (c) The Union Government at present have no proposal to set up any new steel plant in the Central Public Sector in any part of the country.

(d) and (e) No Industrial Licence application under I (D&R) Act for grant of Letter of Intent/Industrial License is pending with the Union Government for setting up a steel plant at Nayagrah in Keonjhar District and Pradeeep in the State of Orissa.

Implementation of Durgapur Steel Modernisation Schemes

3632. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH "SURYA": Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CAG has pointed out serious lapses in the implementation of Durgapur Steel Modernisation Schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action have been initiated to fix responsibility and punishment, if any; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): : (a) to (d) The Report of CAG has been received in the Department of Steel which has already been placed in both Houses of Parliament on 11.6.1998. The Report is under examination.

Anti-Dumping Duty on Chinese Coke

3633. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the steel and pig iron manufacturers have contested the anti-dumping duty on Chinese coke;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the controversy over imposing anti-dumping duty on Chinese coke; and

(c) the measures taken to solve the problems of the steel and pig iron manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The steel and pig iron manufacturers have raised several issues before the Designated Authority in defence of their interests. These arguments include, inter-alia, the standing of the domestic industry to file the petition, definition of "like article" and the basis of calculation of normal value. The Designated Authority has already conducted the oral hearing on 8.6.98, and all submissions of the exporters, importers, petitioners and other interested parties will be considered by the Designated Authority before arriving at the final findings in the matter.

खनिजों के लिए निर्यात नीति

3634. **श्री चीमनभाई हरीभाई शुक्ल:** क्या इस्पात तथा खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार की खनिजों के निर्यात हेतु कोई स्थायी निर्यात नीति है जिसके अंतर्गत कम चर्चित खनिजों के निर्यात को बढ़ावा दिया जा सके;

(ख) ऐसे कम चर्चित खनिजों के निर्यात को बढ़ावा देने हेतु किन-किन राज्यों ने प्रस्ताव प्रेषित किए हैं;

(ग) इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है;

(घ) केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा गुजरात में पाए जाने वाले ऐसे खनिजों के निर्यात हेतु यदि कोई प्रयास किया गया है तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है;

इस्पात तथा खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रमेश बैस): (क) खनिज के निर्यात को वाणिज्य मंत्रालय द्वारा समय-समय पर घोषित निर्यात-आयात नीति द्वारा नियंत्रित किया जाता है। तथापि, सबसे कम लोकप्रिय खनिजों के निर्यात को बढ़ावा देने हेतु इस प्रकार की कोई विशिष्ट नीति नहीं है।

(ख) और (ग) इस प्रकार के सबसे कम लोकप्रिय खनिजों के निर्यात के संबंध में राज्य सरकार से कोई विशिष्ट प्रस्ताव प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है। सरकार मशीनरी आयात करने हेतु निर्यातोन्मुखी यूनिटों को आयात शुल्क की रियायती दरें प्रदान कर रही है और निर्यातकों द्वारा संसाधित अयस्कों और खनिजों से प्राप्त आय को आयकर से मुक्त रखा गया है।

(घ) गुजरात राज्य में बाक्साइट, बेंटोनाइट, चूनापत्थर, डोलोमाइट, फायरक्ले, काओलिन (चाइनाक्ले) आदि प्रचुर मात्रा में हैं। वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के अधीन सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र यूनिट, खनिज और धातु व्यापार निगम लि० लौह अयस्क, क्रोम अयस्क और मैंगनीज अयस्क का निर्यात कर रहा है। यह गुजरात के खनिज सम्पन्न कच्छ/जामनगर जिलों में उत्पादित बाक्साइट और बेंटोनाइट जैसे खनिजों के लिए भी निर्यात बाजार का पता लाने का प्रयास कर रहा है। इसके अलावा, गुजरात सरकार ने खनिजों के निर्यातकों को संबंधित सूचना देने के लिए गुजरात अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार संवर्धन परिषद् और गुजरात निर्यात निगम की स्थापना की है।